

What's New Newsletter?

New EcoSoft Green Seal Tissue

This two-ply EcoSoft™ Green Seal® controlled-use tissue features the newly patented OptiCore™ two-part core technology. This EcoSoft™ Green Seal® tissue when combined with the coordinating Revolution™ and Dubl-Serv® dispensing systems, ensures maximum use of each roll in the dispenser thereby reducing waste and cost. This quality tissue is 100% recycled and exceeds EPA guidelines for post-consumer waste. This embossed tissue is made with de-inking and bleaching processes free of chlorine and other harmful chemicals as well as features environmentally preferable packaging. This high-capacity EcoSoft™ Green Seal® tissue is designed for those seeking to achieve green status for their facility and purchase tissue produced with methods less harmful to the environment.



Features/Benefits

- * Green Seal certified and contains up to 49% post-consumer wastepaper
- * Consumer-like premium floral embossing pattern
- * Ideal for government facilities that have mandates to be green
- * The OptiCore™ two-part core technology offers more than a 25% reduction in core material for more environmentally preferable packaging

Compass™ Totally Clean Machine



Features:

- Easy to use
- Reduces water and chemical consumption
- Uses any electrical circuit
- Infinitely adjustable pressure sprayer
- Large capacity for long run time
- Retractable vacuum hose
- Reduced training time
- Large puncture-proof wheels
- 400 psi cleaning pressure
- Extraction for carpet cleaning
- Easy to transport
- Patent pending wand with four interchangeable heads

Facilities and uses:

- Gymsnasiums - Benches, floors, equipment, lockers, showers
- Front Entrance/Exterior - Facade, walkway, windows, track off mats
- Offices - Floors, dusting, vents, furniture
- Restrooms - Floor, urinals, walls, toilets, sinks, doors
- Cafeteria/Kitchen - Floors, equipment, tables, chairs, grease vents
- Hospital/Nursing Home - Patient room floors, Surgery floors and equipment

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Factory Mutual Approved fire -safe, self-extinguishing

Heavy duty fire-safe steel construction.

Oxygen-restricting fluted design smothers smoldering butts.

Weather-resistant capped tube features two 1¼" diameter disposal openings which deter other types of waste.

Removable top is secured to base by a concealed chain to prevent theft and vandalism.

4¼ gallon fire-safe galvanized steel liner with handle removes for discarding butts.

Optional Anchor Kit is available .

Myers Chemical & Supplies

Get more product info at: www.MyersSupply.com

MyersSupply.com

Impact, Allsafe Form Strategic Alliance

Impact Products, LLC has announced a strategic alliance with Allsafe Services and Materials (ASMC) beginning May 1st. Impact is proud to partner with the innovator of the original 4-sided safety sign – Lamba® System, according to the company.

All Lamba products, orange industrial safety cones, and many other ASMC products will be in stock and available for immediate shipment exclusively through Impact Products on May 1st.



Unger Enterprises Wins Innovation Award

Unger Enterprises Inc., Bridgeport, Conn., recently announced its new ErgoTec LockingCone won the Innovation Award in the "best hand tools" category at The Cleaning Show 2005, one of the UK's largest cleaning industry exhibitions. Unger's ErgoTec LockingCone is an ergonomically designed safety adapter for Unger's High Access System. The product allows select Unger tool attachments to be fastened securely to Unger's telescopic pole system, preventing tools from falling during use.

"Worker and pedestrian safety are major concerns when cleaning high, out-of-reach areas," said Mark Unger, COO, Unger Enterprises. "The instability of cleaning tools at great heights is a common cause of injury. The ErgoTec LockingCone fastens tools securely to prevent such accidents. All of the entries this year represented cutting-edge developments in the cleaning industry, and we are honored to receive this prestigious recognition."

The ErgoTec LockingCone locks to the pole, and allows attachments to be changed by pressing a quick-release spring. The product can be used with Unger's lightweight aluminum telescopic poles, ErgoTec family of Window Cleaning Tools, Visa Versa and the ProFlat Duster.

FOLD 'N GO CARTS

- * Fold 'N Go Cart has a rugged design, sturdy construction, and space saving features
- * cart folds and unfolds in a single, quick, and easy motion
- * cart ships fully assembled; no tools or complicated latches required
- * SBC1521 and SBC2031 collapse to 9" width and 10-1/2" width, respectively; store easily behind doors, in between counters, or in the back of your delivery van for off-site functions
- * durable construction; 3/4" solid aluminum legs add strength and rigidity
- * all bolts are lock-tight secured to remain tight even after extended use
- * transports heavy loads with ease; each cart holds up to 350 lbs (approximately 116 lbs per shelf)
- * sturdy polyethylene shelves have molded-in solid aluminum rods for increased strength and rigidity
- * textured polyethylene shelves are easy to clean; top shelf has ergonomically shaped easy grip handles at both ends for a fast, secure grip
- * SBC1521 holds standard size bus boxes for busing tables and quick clean-up; shelf measures 20-1/2" (l) x 15" (w); SBC2031 holds two bus boxes per shelf; shelf measures 31-1/2" (l) x 18-1/2" (w); with 11-1/2" shelf spacing
- * use for room service, dessert trays, or table service, perfect for crowded kitchens and hallways or off site catering
- * 4" heavy duty non-marking swivel casters with molded-in metal reinforcement plates are permanently staked to legs for long life



Disinfection without chemicals

Facility managers concerned about seeking proper disinfection without the risks and limitations associated with typical chemical disinfectants now have a solution: The chemical-free, high-level disinfection of steam vapor and nano technology.

A new process — Thermal Accelerated Nano Crystal Sanitation (TANCS) — removes minerals from water within the steam vapor unit and converts them to nano crystals, heat-energized to destroy bacteria, mold and pathogenic germs by disrupting the cell membranes of microbes.

The result is a virtually sterile surface without the use of chemical disinfectants.

Nationally Recognized Test Lab (NRTL) Nelson Labs of Utah reported that seven-second exposure to TANCS steam vapor produces a five to seven log reduction of all microorganisms tested — including mold spores.



This is thousands of times better than any direct-applied water disinfection process using chemicals, to date.

Results are dramatic and immediate and, with regular use, the results continue to improve over time until reaching a disinfection base line that approaches sterilization.

Since the process uses only water, heat and TANCS technology, the result is a clean, virtually germ-free surface without the use of harmful chemicals.

Green Cleaning Survey Results

The education market is “most interested” in using environmentally preferable cleaning products according to subscribers of DestinationGreen, the new e-newsletter produced by The Ashkin Group, Bloomington, IN.

The e-newsletter’s February 2005 survey asked subscribers, “Which market or setting do you think is most interested in using environmentally preferable cleaning products?” The results were:

- Education—52.4%
- Medical—21.4%
- Government—16.7%
- Commercial Office Buildings—4.8%
- Residential—4.8%



“This does not surprise me in the least,” says Stephen Ashkin, president of The Ashkin Group. “Just last month, New York’s Governor Pataki introduced legislation requiring the state’s school systems to purchase Green cleaning products. This is occurring throughout the country.”

Ashkin adds that in his own 15 years spent advocating the use of Green Cleaning products, school systems showed the earliest—and greatest interest—in adopting environmentally preferable cleaning products.

Who Read What? Discussing the new e-newsletter, Ashkin also says he found it interesting which articles in last month’s DestinationGreen were most popular. Of the nearly 2,000 page visits, the reporting statistics show that the article, “Green Selling: Fish Where the Fish Are,” dealing with selling Green Cleaning products, received the most attention.

“I’m thrilled about this,” says Ashkin. “Not only is the newsletter exalting the benefits of Green Cleaning, but we are assisting sales people in selling green products as well. And the more we can help sales people sell Green Cleaning products -- the faster we will transform the cleaning industry.”

Following the Green selling article, the next most popular articles were, “Implementing Green Cleaning: Steps toward a Healthier Facility,” and “Green Success Stories.”

“These articles share strategies and experiences that will help sales people succeed,” Ashkin says. “They not only point out the benefits of Green Cleaning products but also provide an arsenal of information to help them become ‘Green Cleaning experts’ and ultimately help them create cleaner and healthier buildings.”

Cleaning Right Means Cleaning Safe

This year, over 60,000 janitors and other cleaning staff members will be injured on their jobs. Will your facility play a part in this statistic? Research conducted by the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) identified the following variables related to disproportionately higher shares of on-the-job injuries and illnesses:

- * Age. Younger employees have more on-the-job accidents.
- * Time on the job. New employees have more accidents and injuries.
- * Size of the facility. In general, medium-sized companies have more accidents and work-related injuries than smaller or larger companies.



A poor safety program exposes your facility to an increase in potential worker injury, OSHA fines, workers' compensation costs, and possible company and personal supervisory liability for an employee's accident. A commitment to a safe workplace should result from (besides the threat of OSHA inspections and fines) a desire to decrease costs, increase employee morale and better train workers.

A strong safety and health program will increase the productivity of your operation -- as well as decrease workplace accidents. Direct costs which will be lower include workers' compensation premiums, medical payments and insurance deductibles. Indirect costs associated with workplace injuries -- which may many times exceed direct costs -- include production down time, loss of employee morale and efficiency, hiring and training replacements for injured workers, damage to products and equipment, and loss of reputation with customers.

While improved safety and health is an incentive unto itself, this does not always motivate employees to make changes in their work habits. Sometimes it is necessary for employers to sweeten the pot to make "safe cleaning" attractive to employees.

Some facilities have contests among employees for the most time worked without an accident. First prize can be a gift certificate at a local restaurant of a meal brought into work by the employer for the winning team. Consider creating a "Safest Employee of the Week" award.

Veteran Employees, Too

Ask your supplier sales rep to host a workshop training employees on the products they use. This training will help cut down on the risk of injuries and is a good refresher course for employees who have been using the products for years. Providing successful completion certificates to employees who attended the workshop can be a morale-booster.

Encourage your senior staff and supervisors to take as many safety-related courses as possible. If an incident occurs, they will be better prepared to handle the situation.

Re-evaluate your chemical inventory. There are now many effective green products on the market which pose less of a health risk to employees and others than some of the more aggressive products that have been in use for years. For example, consider switching from an acid-based bathroom cleaner to one with a lower percentage of acid, one containing a more "user-friendly" acid or one without acid.

Back injuries are the most frequent on-the-job injuries. Consider providing employees with back support belts. Belts alone do not prevent injuries, but they remind the wearers of the correct lifting position of the back.

Review the material safety data sheets (MSDS) for your products and list the personal protective equipment (PPE) that is required for each product. Having ample PPE on hand eliminates any problems with employees refusing to perform their jobs because there are not enough gloves or goggles in stock. Dispose of any equipment that is not in good shape.



Have on hand a blood spill cleanup kit, and arrange for a training session for you and your employees to review proper blood and bodily fluid cleanup procedures.

On to HAZCOM

OSHA now requires that you conduct a hazard assessment to identify, organize and analyze sources of on-the-job hazards. If such hazards exist, the employer must select the proper PPE for employees.

Employees must be trained in the use, limitations and proper maintenance of PPE. The employer is required to document the training with a written certification that includes the employees' names, training dates and subjects covered in the training session. Many companies have employees sign a copy of this document. Lack of a site-specific written hazard communication (HAZCOM) program has been the number one OSHA violation for the last several years. A written HAZCOM program would include the following information:

- * Hazard communication policy tailored to the facility
- * List of hazardous chemicals at the facility
- * MSDS and product labels used at the facility
- * Employee training and information
- * Performance of non-routine tasks
- * Contractor/employer notification of products brought onto the facility by other companies.



HAZCOM training is required before a new employee begins work and should be performed annually or whenever new hazards arise. Temporary employees and summer help must also be trained. It applies to any facility which requires employees to handle hazardous materials on the job, regardless of its size or number of employees.

When OSHA Calls...

During an OSHA inspection, employees are frequently interviewed and must demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the OSHA compliance officer, adequate knowledge of the chemicals they are working with, proper procedures to follow when handling them and the ability to put into practice what they have learned.

OSHA has cautioned employers that a generic "one size fits all" videotape training program or book is not considered effective training. Job hazards and chemicals used at each specific site must be covered and understood by all employees.

MSDS for the products used on the job must be readily available to all employees, who must be familiar with how to read and interpret MSDS for the products they handle or are exposed to. There must be an MSDS for every chemical in use at the facility, regardless of where the product was purchased. Even sample products must be accompanied by an MSDS. If you're unable to obtain the MSDS from the vendor, contact the manufacturer directly.

Programs for other issues may also pertain to your operation: lockout/tagout; confined space entry; forklifts; and the OSHA Form 200 accident and illness log.

As a cleaning/maintenance manager, you are familiar with the risks and hazards of your facility, and are responsible for protecting your workers. These suggestions may benefit your facility through less lost worktime due to injury, decreased insurance costs and the satisfaction of having a safer, healthier workplace.

By Deborah L. Moore

Safe Use Of Chemicals

The Right-To-Know laws, both state and federal, recognize the workers' right-to-know about the chemical hazards in the workplace. However, a hazard communication program can protect employees only if they follow a few common sense guidelines:

1. Read the container label and MSDS before using a chemical product.
2. Follow any instructions and warnings.
3. Know in advance what could go wrong and what to do with it.
4. Use the correct protective clothing and equipment when appropriate.
5. Never mix a chemical with another substance, even water, unless instructed to do so by label or manufacturer's instructions.
6. When questions arise about any chemical products, always check with your supervisor or supplier before using them.



OSHA Overview

WHO IS COVERED BY THE STANDARD?



As revised on August 24, 1987, the OSHA Hazard Communication Standard applies to all employers with employees who are or may be exposed to hazardous chemicals.

WHAT IS A HAZARDOUS CHEMICAL?

Hazardous chemicals are those substances which present health and physical hazards. The term health hazard is defined by OSHA as including but not limited to those chemicals which are irritants, corrosives, sensitizers, carcinogens, toxins, and agents which damage the lungs, skin, eyes or mucous membranes. Chemical products which present physical hazards such as combustibility or flammability are also considered hazardous. Such a broad definition encompasses even seemingly innocuous institutional/ industrial cleaning and maintenance products. Employers will know the product is hazardous if the material safety data sheet list any health or physical hazards or if the label includes a hazard warning. Some of the more common products used in the workplace which may be considered hazardous are:

Bowl cleaners, drain cleaners, rust removers, strippers, cleaners, degreasers and oven cleaners.

Remember, hazardous materials do not have to be harmful to you if you learn which ones are hazardous, what their hazards are and how you can work with them safely.

END USER OBLIGATIONS

Under the OSHA Hazard Communication Standard, revised August 24, 1987, institutional/ industrial end users of hazardous industrial chemical products must be in compliance with the labeling, material safety data sheet and employee information and training provisions of the Standard.

NOTE: Your coverage under the OSHA Hazard Communication Standard means that you are also covered under the Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act of 1986.

LABELING

Employers must ensure that each container of hazardous chemical products in the workplace is labeled, tagged or marked, before employees use the product, with the following information:

1. Identity of the hazardous chemical(s).
2. Appropriate hazard warnings; and
3. Name and address of chemical manufacturer, importer or other responsible party such as distributor.

The "identity" of the hazardous chemical on the label can be designation such as a trade name, brand name or generic name. The purpose of the "identity" is to allow cross reference to be made between the label and the MSDS which contain more in-depth product information. Under Federal law, the specific hazardous chemical ingredients are not required to be listed on the label.

The "hazard warning" describes the specific hazard(s) of the chemical product such as whether it is flammable or a skin irritant. However, the label is not intended to contain every hazard or precaution listed on the MSDS. Therefore, before working with a hazardous chemical product, both the label and the MSDS should be reviewed.

Employers must appropriately label portable containers (e.g., spray bottles) into which hazardous chemical products are transferred from labeled containers unless the portable container is intended for the immediate use of the employee who performs the transfer.



Myers Chemical & Supplies
Get more product info at: www.MyersSupply.com